

APPROVED SCRIPT FOR BUS GUIDES  
FOR VALLEY FORGE DAY  
PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR

Valley Forge Park, covering 2033 acres of the famous Winter Encampment, 1777-1778, is owned, maintained and preserved by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It is not a National reservation. It has been under the control of the Valley Forge Park Commission since 1893.

Valley Forge is one of the most sacred of American Shrines. No battle was fought here, but the experiences in this Winter Encampment were lessons of dogged courage and perseverance in the face of overwhelming difficulties. Washington arrived here on December 19, 1777, with approximately 11,000 untrained men. Four days later he reported to Congress in his own words that "2,898 men are unfit for duty because they are barefoot or otherwise naked". In the ensuing months of a severe winter, over 3,000 died of disease, exposure and privation. Sometimes sentries on guard had to stand on their hats to keep their feet from freezing. On February 1, 1778, Washington reported that he had only 5,012 men available for duty.

One-third as many men died here at Valley Forge as were killed in all the battles of the Revolutionary War. This fact gives you some idea of the terrible ordeal through which these brave troops successfully passed.

In the meantime, the British, under Howe, spent the winter in comfort in Philadelphia. He made no attempt to attack or destroy Washington's Army, although unquestionably he could have done so. He was confident that nature would finish the work of stamping out the Revolution.

We are frequently asked what military reasons led Washington to select Valley Forge as a winter camp. His letters to Congress show that his several generals had other sites in mind, one somewhere in the interior of the State, where the population was more friendly and could be depended upon for food supplies, and where the Army would be safe from a surprise attack. Washington rejected this plan because it would subject the fertile farming regions of Chester and Montgomery Counties to the ravages of the enemy. It should be noted that events during the winter showed that all the residents hereabouts were not sympathizers with the American cause. At the request of the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council, Washington decided to make his encampment near enough to Philadelphia to hold the British in check.

Valley Forge met all the requirements of such a camp site. It was more than a day's march from Philadelphia over the then existing roads, thus insuring safety from an overnight surprise attack. From a strategic point of view, it had the advantages that two sides of the camp were easily defended - rear line by the steep slopes of the creek valley and the northern flank by the Schuylkill River. This left the southerly and easterly sides of the camp to be guarded.

At that time Mount Joy was covered by a primeval forest, the greater part of which was sacrificed during the winter for the construction of huts for the soldiers and later for firewood. It is recorded in Washington's orderly book that all timber useful for building material was not to be burned. He also offered \$12.00 for the first hut erected.

WATERMAN MONUMENT: Route #23 opposite Washington Memorial Chapel. Large marble shaft marks the grave of Lieutenant John Waterman, an officer in the Commissary of the Continental Army. Erected in 1901 on the Grand Parade Ground by the Daughters of the Revolution "To the Soldiers of Washington's Army who sleep in Valley Forge. 1777-1778." Marks the grave of the only identified soldier among the several thousand men of the Revolutionary Army who died of disease and starvation. Beyond is the parade ground on which General Von Steuben drilled the soldiers. It was here that the news of the French Alliance was celebrated on May 6, 1778.

STAR REDOUBT: Route #23 opposite General Varnum's Quarters. On the left is Star Redoubt, so named because it is in the shape of a star. It has been reconstructed on the site of the original built under the direction of Brig. General DuPortail during the winter of 1777-1778. This Fort, together with Fort Washington and Fort Huntington, constituted the backbone of the inner line of defense. Star Redoubt also commanded and protected the log bridge which was built across the Schuylkill by the American forces, under the direction of General Sullivan. The bridge was not built on pontoons, as army engineers now build temporary bridges, but rested on piles driven into the river bed. The flooring was made of split logs, laid with the round side to the water, and held in place by wooden pegs. The bridge was built close to the water and subsequent spring freshets washed it away. A large part of the army's supplies passed over the bridge, and it afforded a possible means of retreat. When the camp was evacuated June 19, 1778, the entire Army marched out across this bridge.

GENERAL VARNUM'S QUARTERS: Opposite Star Redoubt. Route #23. Original house. Occupied by General James M. Varnum, Commanding the Rhode Island Brigade. Within this house courts-martial were held, presided over by General Varnum in his capacity as Judge Advocate of the Continental Army.

FORT HUNTINGTON: On Camp Road and Route #23. Original Fort. Built by the Continental Troops during the Winter of 1777-1778, under direction of Brig. General Louis L. DuPortail, Defense Engineer, as a means of defense against attack by the British Troops. One of the three forts of the Inner Line Drive. Note the tablet at the foot of the Fort marking the grave of a soldier who was shot during the encampment by a farmer on a neighboring farm. Several years later the victim's remains were removed to the location marked by the monument. Tradition says this man was caught stealing provisions on a nearby farm.

Next we come to the Old School House, built in 1705 on land owned by Letitia Penn Aubrey, a daughter of William Penn. This building was used as an emergency hospital during the Encampment.

Opposite the school is another restored Soldiers' Hut, built according to Washington's plans.

MEMORIAL ARCH: On the right, Congress recognized the patriotism of George Washington and his men who suffered here by erecting the National Memorial Arch. This magnificent granite structure was designed by Paul P. Crete of Philadelphia. It was erected by Congress at a cost of \$100,000, dedicated and presented to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1917 - "in commemoration of the services of the officers and soldiers of the Continental Army and the hardships they endured at Valley Forge during the Winter of 1777-1778". Engraved on the Arch, "Naked and starving as they are, one cannot enough admire the incomparable patience and fidelity of the soldiery."

The two Columns immediately beyond to the West were erected by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to mark the beginning of the encampment of the Pennsylvania Troops. On the bases of the columns are four bronze bas-reliefs of the Pennsylvania Generals who served in the war of the Revolution.

QUARTERS OF WASHINGTON'S GENERALS

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE WEEDON AND  
MAJOR GENERAL BARON JOHAN DeKALB.  
"EAST WATCH"

MR. AND MRS. FEDERICO F. MAUCK

"East Watch" is located at the most southeasterly frontier of any of the original quarters on Route 23, one mile east of the Memorial Arch. This gracious home, overlooking a carefully tended garden, commands a fine view to the east. The spring house is original. History records that the wife of Abijah Stephens, original owner of the property, tried to alleviate the suffering of cold and starving sentries with hot gruel, moved as she was by the seeming heartlessness of Brigadier General Weedon. The arrival of the gracious Major General DeKalb, furthered the atmosphere of hospitality which we today associate with "East Watch".

QUARTERS OF MAJOR GENERAL JAMES POTTER

"WHITE COTTAGE"

MR. AND MRS. JAMES M. LARGE

The original house stood about forty yards northwest of the present dwelling located on Thomas Rd., north of Richards Rd. Potter, a daring and courageous officer, from Cumberland County, had served as a lieutenant under Armstrong in 1758. In 1764 he commanded a Company in an engagement against the Indians. Potter served successfully as Chief of Secret Service. He and his companions, dressed as farmers, sold horse meat in Philadelphia, during which trips they discovered essential information about the British movements. This house is a splendid example of early Pennsylvania architecture.

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ENOCH POOR

"LITTLE PLACE FARM"

MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH M. McCREADY

This farm house, located on Thomas Rd. south of Potter's quarters and used by General Poor as brigade headquarters, was built on land granted by William Penn to the Walker family and for many years the home of Nathan Walker. The oldest part of the house is a three story stone building of six rooms, built in 1740. An addition was built about 1812, and a few years ago it was restored under the direction of Walter Durham. The house has original floors, hardware and window panes plus a charming enclosed curved stairway. In the library hangs a small portrait of General Washington, by Gilbert Stuart, and a portrait of General Poor by the present owner of the property.

THE VALLEY FRIENDS' MEETING

The original log meeting house, in the southeastern corner of the graveyard, was used as a military hospital during the encampment of the Continental Army, 1777-1778. Soldiers were packed in so tightly that at no time was there room for more. It has been said that over 300 soldiers died there. There are no markers on the grounds. The so-called "buried over section" discloses 4 or 5 sunken places, rectangular in shape, that contain the bodies of Washington's soldiers, mute testimony to the service this Friends' Meeting rendered to the encampment.

QUARTERS OF MAJOR GENERAL NATHANIEL GREENE  
"REHOBETH"

MRS. J. EDGAR HIRES

Across the road from the Valley Friends' Meeting, is the house of Lewis Walker, built in 1696 and used as the Friends' Meeting until the meeting house was built. A portion of the original house remains today. When General Washington ordered Nathaniel Greene to join him at Valley Forge, Greene was quartered in a log hut on this property. This fine Georgian house, with marble lintels and gable chimneys, is flanked by handsome boxwood. It was purchased by Mrs. J. Edgar Hires and the late Mr. Hires in 1939 from Charles Walker.

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL COUNT CASIMIR PULASKI  
"BROOKMEAD FARM"

MR. AND MRS. EDWARD LAW

Count Casimir Pulaski, a Polish nobleman, was an experienced cavalry officer quartered with John Beaver on Walker Rd. east of Baptist Rd. The original portion of the house, built in 1715 of Pennsylvania field stone, boasts walls two feet thick. The house has but two rooms on the first floor with an unusually wide stair. The fireplace on the first floor is original. Three later additions to the house have given it great charm.

QUARTERS OF GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE  
"MANY SPRINGS FARM"

MR. GEORGE FRIEDLAND

Although General Wayne's own home, "Waynesborough", was but 5 miles south of the encampment, close to Paoli, he preferred to maintain quarters in the immediate Valley Forge area. Thus he took up residence with a cousin, Mrs. Joseph Walker, and her husband whose home was opposite General Pulaski's quarters. Originally this house had corner chimneys in each of the two parlors, while in the great hall a quaint "A" shaped alcove under the stair was known as the "Hessian Closet" where prisoners were frequently held under lock and key. The house is unoccupied at present.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH IN THE GREAT VALLEY

Members of this historic church, prior to founding in 1711, assembled for worship in farms and homes as early as 1705. The original meeting house, said to have been built of logs, was used as a hospital during the smallpox epidemic. It stood in what is now the northern part of the graveyard and was torn down in 1805, after the present meeting house was built at New Centerville, 1 mile from the southern boundary of Valley Forge Park. Church records state--"On the 17th of September, 1777, when the British Army encamped nearby, the church was robbed of its sacramental dishes, 2 cups, a table cloth, a Bible of the English language and a change of raiment for the administration of Baptism."

QUARTERS OF GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE  
"VALLEY BROOK FARM"

MR. AND MRS. LINDSEY W. TEEGARDEN

The original building, owned by Samuel Jones during Revolutionary days, burned down in 1921 but was rebuilt by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fleer in 1925. The only part not demolished was the west end. The stone part of the barn, the springhouse and the cattle shelter were built in 1802. The story is told that during Howe's residency here he rode up to the house and gave his horse's reins to a slave boy, rewarding him with a coin. While the boy was playing with the coin at the back of the house, he lost it. About 1875, John S. Latch, who then lived on the property, found there a British coin thought to be the one the slave boy lost.

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM WOODFORD  
"BROOKVALE FARM"

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM H. T. McCOLLUM

AND MR. A. G. W. MCCOLLIUM

On Contention Lane is the lovely old dairy farm which housed General Woodford during the encampment of 1777-1778, then owned by Samuel Richards. The eastern wing of this house was built about 1708 by Rowland Richards. Legend says that at one time the stone slab which formed the base of the oven in the mammoth kitchen fireplace was broken and a member of the family thriftily replaced it with a slab borrowed from the cemetery of the Great Valley Baptist Church. Thereafter, all the Richards Family's bread bore the inscription-- "Here lies". The present owners have preserved this house with much of its original simplicity and charm. In addition to the old fireplace, the building still holds the original sink by the window and the old oak door with its oak tumbler lock.

Before crossing over Turnpike on left is the quarters of the French engineer, Louis L. DuPortail, who was commissioned a brigadier general and detailed to the task by Washington. His original map, which he sketched on paper spread on the pommel of his saddle as he rode horseback over the ground, is still preserved in the archives of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It forms an accurate basis for restoration.

After passing over the Turnpike the statue of Anthony Wayne stands on the hill at the right. This statue was sculptured by Mr. H. K. Bush-Brown, well known in Philadelphia as the founder of the famous Ambler School of Horticulture. The well known Meade Statue at Gettysburg is also by Mr. Bush-Brown. The bake ovens and hospital are at the rear of the Wayne Statue.

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL HENRY KNOX  
"VALLEY FORGE FARM"

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT McG. TINDLE

During the encampment, this home served as the quarters of General Knox, one of Washington's most trusted advisers. Because the Knox quarters were much larger than Washington's, it is believed that many important meetings took place here. Mrs. Washington is said to have spent much time here with Mrs. Knox rolling bandages, mending and sewing for the soldiers. A spacious center hall leads to the south terrace which commands a magnificent view of Valley Creek and fine rolling farm land. To the right of the hall are the dining room and service quarters, the original part of the house. In the dining room are two unusual cupboards with diamond-shaped panes. To the left of the hall, a gracious living room has been made from two smaller rooms.

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM MAXWELL  
"VALLEY FORGE FARM"

MRS. JAMES R. TINDLE

This house is located on the north side of the Valley Creek at the covered bridge. Mrs. Tindle, the owner, is the daughter of the late Philander C. Knox (not related to General Knox), who purchased the 256 acre property in 1902 when he was Attorney General in Theodore Roosevelt's cabinet. Mr. Knox served in the U. S. Senate for Pennsylvania and became Secretary of State under President Taft. From the original walls, Mr. Knox rebuilt the house, making of this beautiful home a treasure house of history. The dining room on the right of the central hall contains a beautiful screen given Mrs. Knox by the Empress of Japan. On the mantel, built to accommodate it, stands a magnificent clock originally owned by Napoleon.

The covered bridge to the left is one of a few such bridges in this county.

We proceed along Valley Creek on which was located the forge from which this hallowed spot got its name. The rear line of Washington's encampment lay on our right on the hill known as "Mount Joy". The hill on our left is called "Mount Misery". Please note the steep sides of Mount Joy and the impossibility of a successful charge up such a slope, making it very easy for Washington to defend this rear line of his camp. The spring at the foot of Mount Joy, Washington's Spring, provided water for the troops.

Across the creek you will see a crude shelter built over a low foundation wall. Back of this wall are the ruins of the original forge which were uncovered in 1929. It is planned to restore this forge, which was burned by the British as they marched along this road in September, 1777, after winning the Battle of Brandywine.

#### THE BAKE-HOUSE

#### VALLEY FORGE PARK COMMISSION

The bake-house, established in the large dwelling originally the property of the Potts family, ironmasters and forge operators, was owned during the time of the encampment by Colonel William Dewees. The present name was derived from the bake-ovens located in the cellar prior to and during the encampment to provide bread for the Army. There is evidence that the building was also used as an adjunct to Washington's Headquarters, and there is recorded mention of courts-martial held in the house.

#### HEADQUARTERS OF GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

#### VALLEY FORGE PARK COMMISSION

The Headquarters of General George Washington is situated at the junction of routes 23 and 83. It was owned in 1777 by Isaac Potts but tenanted by Mrs. Deborah Hewes, a widow, to whom Washington paid 100 pounds rent. It is preserved in good condition under the custody of the Park Commission. Here the staff met to confer on problems and to plan future strategy. Here Martha Washington came to celebrate her husband's birthday. She was so appalled by the distress of the soldiers that she organized a group of officers' wives to sew and mend and even cook for the needy.

#### QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES M. VARNUM

#### OWNED AND PRESERVED BY THE VALLEY FORGE PARK COMMISSION

Owned by David Stephens at the time of the Revolution.

The final quarters that we will visit are those of Brigadier General Jedediah Huntington, owned by David Stephens and tenanted by Zachary Davis during the encampment.

At the Washington Memorial Chapel you will find guides, members of the Colonial Dames. Adjoining the Chapel you may visit the Washington Memorial Museum of the Valley Forge Historical Society where special exhibits are on display. Today to the north of the Church, under a marquee, luncheon is being served by members of the Martha Washington Guild.

THE AIMS OF THE VALLEY FORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARE:

1. To collect and preserve records pertaining to the Encampment, 1777-1778.
2. To collect and display relics pertinent to Valley Forge and to the officers and men who made history there.

To the end that: Visual evidence of the faith of the Army in its ideals may provide for our own, and coming generations, strength to believe that--Sacrifice is small when ideals are great.

## ALTERNATE ROUTE FOR OUT-OF-TOWN-BUSES

We are approaching the location of General Knox's artillery and blacksmith shop. To the right, the guns as you see them are parked exactly as they were kept by Knox and have been restored from the Encampment Map.

We proceed up the drive leading to and past Fort Washington. Note the beautiful view extending in all directions and particularly into Chester County. Artillery guns were not mounted in this Fort. It was occupied by 60 Infantry Men. They were on the drive which will take us to the Observatory Tower. It is one of the most beautiful drives in the Park. In fact, you will probably agree with us that this road and the Dogwood Drive wind through scenes of surpassing loveliness. As we pass along this drive you may see the remains of some of the Inner Line Entrenchments which parallel this roadway.

We are turning down this road in order to view a monument that marks the site occupied by Washington in his own tent, or Marquee, during the first week of the Encampment. He stayed in this tent until the day before Christmas, 1777, when he moved into the Potts' house, which was his Headquarters for the remainder of the six (6) months.

We now pass through some of the famous dogwood trees of Valley Forge. This dogwood attracts national attention in May, during the Spring Blossom time, and is almost as beautiful in the Fall, when the berries are red and the leaves bronze.

On the left is the Monument erected by the State of New Jersey in honor of New Jersey Troops commanded by Brig. Gen. William Maxwell.

Hostess Notes

QUARTERS OF MAJOR GENERAL MARQUIS de LAFAYETTE  
"LAFAYETTE'S QUARTERS"  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

During the encampment (1777-1778) this yellow stucco house was the property of Samuel Havard, whose sisters attended the young Marquis.

The house is now unoccupied and is owned by the University of Pennsylvania. It was built in 1740, the same year that the University was founded.

Marie-Paul Joseph-Roch-Yves-Gilbert-Mottier (Marquis) de Lafayette was born in France in 1757; was educated at the College of Duplessis in Paris, graduating at 16. In 1776 he espoused the cause of the American colonies and offered his services and his wealth. He joined the Revolutionary army in 1777 and with his purse, sword, council and influence with the French court, he greatly aided America in its struggle for political independence.

He was wounded at the Battle of Brandywine; was at Valley Forge with Washington; accompanied General Greene to relieve Fort Mercer; was with Washington in the pursuit of the British through New Jersey; returned to France to plead the American cause; brought back the sorely needed aid from France; was in command at Tappan; was on the court of inquiry concerning Andre; was at the siege of Yorktown; was presented with a sword by Congress in 1779 and having returned to France, visited this country in 1824 and was accorded a tremendous ovation.

His deep personal friendship with Washington has become a symbol of the real attachment between France and America through the years.

Hostess Notes

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON  
VALLEY FORGE PARK COMMISSION

This property was owned during the encampment (1777-1778) by David Stephens and tenanted by Zachary Davis.

Only a portion of the building is original; it is situated on The Grand Parade, opposite to the Washington Memorial Chapel.

On Valley Forge Day there will be on exhibit here some interesting prints of Washington.

Here, too, may be seen the only statue of Washington at Valley Forge. It is a bronze replica of Houdon's famous statue in Richmond, Virginia.

Huntington was born at Norwich, Connecticut in 1743; he was one of five sons of General Jabez Huntington, all of whom were in the Continental Army at different times during the war. He graduated from Harvard at the age of twenty and engaged in commercial pursuits. He espoused the cause of the colonists; was an active Son of Liberty and was one of the earliest Captains of militia in his native town. He raised a regiment and with it joined the Continental Army. He had aided in repulsing the British at Danbury and in 1777 he was commissioned Brigadier General.

He served in the court-martial that tried Lee and the one that examined Andre. He was State Treasurer and a delegate to the Convention that adopted the Constitution of the United States. He was highly esteemed by Washington, who appointed him Collector of Customs at New London, which office he held for 26 years. He died in 1818.

It is interesting to note that during the encampment at Valley Forge, when the soldiers suffered from lack of food, those under Huntington's command were partially supplied by the people of Connecticut, who sent teams regularly with supplies to Valley Forge.

Hostess Notes

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL LOUIS LeBEQUE DuPORTAIL  
"CHESTERBROOK FARM"  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

The original house was built by John Havard in 1740. The property is now in the possession of the University of Pennsylvania and by an interesting coincidence the house was built in the same year as the founding of the University.

DuPortail was one of four French officers who had served as engineers in the French Army. Benjamin Franklin and Silas Deane, then in Paris, contracted with these competent engineers to come to America. These officers came to the United States with the knowledge and approbation of the French government, and were the only ones engaged by the express authority of Congress.

DuPortail was commissioned Brigadier General and assigned to the task of planning for the defense of Valley Forge. He laid out plans for the proposed defenses and fortifications as he rode over the ground at Valley Forge on horseback, his outline map posed before him on the pommel of his saddle. At his headquarters, he inked in the pencil markings. His original map was found, more than a century and a half later, tucked away in a cubbyhole in the attic of this old house. It is now at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

The Chevalier DuPortail was born in France, arriving in America in 1777. He was a personal friend of Lafayette. After having laid out the plans for the defensive positions for Washington's army of 11,000 men at Valley Forge, he served at Monmouth, Fort Clinton and Boston. In 1780 he joined General Lincoln at Charleston and was captured by the British and soon after exchanged. He was in charge of the Engineering operations at the siege of Yorktown and received special mention in despatches at the capitulation. He died at sea, on one of his return voyages to France in 1802.

Hostess Notes

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL HENRY KNOX  
"VALLEY FORGE FARM"  
MR. AND MRS. ROBERT M. TINDLE

At the time of the encampment (1777-1778) this house was occupied by Samuel Brown.

Original portion of the house now the dining room and service quarters.

It is said that Washington and his generals often met here for security reasons and because Washington's Headquarters were so small that even his domestic arrangements were difficult. Mrs. Washington also spent much time here with Mrs. Knox rolling bandages, mending and sewing for the soldiers.

Knox, having performed the hazardous task of bringing cannon down from Canada for the seige of Boston, Washington selected him to be in command of the artillery at Valley Forge.

Knox fought in every battle with Washington, always exhibiting great courage. He was wounded at the Battle of Monmouth.

He was one of three Commissioners entrusted with the adjustment of the terms of peace. As Washington's deputy he received the surrender of New York City.

The Covered Bridge near this house was named for him. He was one of Washington's most trusted advisers.

A picture of General Knox and a portion of an original document which he signed are here on exhibition.

General Knox was in command of West Point and established the United States Marine Service.

Hostess Notes

QUARTERS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL COUNT CASIMIR PULASKI  
"BROOKMEAD FARM"  
MR. AND MRS. EDWARD LAW

The original portion of this house was built in 1715 of Pennsylvania field stone, with walls 2 feet thick.

The owner at the time of the encampment was John Beaver.

The fireplace in the dining room is original.

Notice the interesting pieces of copper and brass, mostly from England; also a most unusual Swiss wine jug, that resembles a tankard.

There is a lovely Grandmother's clock by Willard in the library.

Beautiful old portraits and a miniature of Richard Law, an ancestor of the present owner, who was a delegate from Connecticut to the first Continental Congress.

There is also on exhibit an early pen and ink drawing of the house, done when it was occupied by Franklin Jones, and depicted as it was during the Revolution.

There is an unusually wide stairway.

Count Pulaski was born in Poland and with his family fought a losing battle for Poland: their estates were confiscated and Pulaski escaped to Paris. There he tendered his services to the American cause to Franklin; and came to America in 1777 as a volunteer. Because of his experience as a cavalry officer in Poland and of his bravery at the Battle of Brandywine, he was commissioned a Brigadier General in command of the light-horse at Valley Forge. The cavalry was the weakest branch in the American army and Pulaski brought 4 regiments together and organized and drilled them. Some dissatisfaction arose because Pulaski was a foreigner. Later, at his suggestion an independent corps of Lancers and light infantry was formed and became known as the famous

"Pulaski Legion", and rendered great service. While in command of the cavalry in the attack on Savannah, Pulaski was mortally wounded and died a few days later on the Brig "Wasp".

Legend has it that Devault Beaver, son of the Revolutionary owner, believing that mrauders were stealing milk from their cow, asked a very busy General Wayne what he should do about it. Wayne replied, dismissing Devault, but not meaning to be taken seriously, "Shoot them"! Hearing a noise in the barn the next morning, Devault hurried out and seeing a stranger milking the cow, shot him fatally. Devault was arrested, as the "stranger" proved to be the hungry sentry! There was a court-martial but due to the extraordinary circumstances and to Wayne's testimony, Devault Beaver was saved from the gallows erected on the encampment. Later, the bones of the sentry were found and decently buried in front of Fort Huntington with a tablet noting the incident.

Pulaski went to Bethlehem to visit Lafayette, while the latter was recovering from the wound received at Brandywine. The kindly Moravians tended the wounded officer and were so impressed with his visitor, Pulaski, that they made a beautiful banner for the Polish General. This banner was exhibited at Peale's Museum and is now preserved at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore.